

PREMIERE TRAINING COLLECTION



7th U.S. Army Joint Multinational Training Command

TRAINING **J**OURNAL

Spring 2006

***EUCOM
USAREUR
JMTc
JMRC
DOT***

NON-LETHAL WEAPONS

Maximizing commanders' options

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Cover: Non-lethal weapons training mock DVD cover. Photos used in illustration were taken by Paula Guzman during a non-lethal weapons training exercise at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center.

Photo Illustration by Mindy Anderson

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If you said the Training Support Activity-Europe, you would be correct.



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In the pursuit of Army Chief of Staff General Peter Schoomaker's vision "Every Soldier is a Rifleman," instructors from the 7th U.S. Army Joint Multinational Training Command Small Arms Master Marksman Course recently completed its first expeditionary training exercise with the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas.



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Two Soldiers train with DARWARS while attending the Warrior Leader Course at the 7th Army NCO Academy, Grafenwoehr, Germany. DARWARS is a computerized video simulation designed to give Soldiers a virtual, yet realistic view of what they will experience downrange, such as avoiding an ambush, handling a hostile crowd or navigating an urban environment.



“**S**eeing tough missions and conditions **FIRST** in training, not combat or on deployment is what has brought enormous success to our Soldiers the past three-and-a-half years.”

—Brig. Gen. David G. Perkins, commanding general, JMTC



COMMANDER'S COLUMN

Soldiers see tough missions first in training

Recently, our nation marked the third anniversary of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Together with operations in Afghanistan, our army has been in continual conflict for over three-and-a-half years. In that time, we have seen more change in how our army organizes and fights than has happened since the Second World War.

Today, in addition to being a warrior, each of our Soldiers is a statesman, charged with promoting democracy, while building the basic structures and services that guarantee the freedoms and rights that we as Americans enjoy each and every day. Executing missions that simultaneously blend combat

operations on one city block, while conducting peace and support operations on an adjacent city block is extremely demanding and tough and this requirement has driven equal change within how we train Soldiers.

Seeing tough missions and conditions first in training, not combat or on deployment is what has brought enormous success to our Soldiers the past three-and-a-half years. At JMTC, we have equally transformed from a Cold War training base to one where we train from the individual soldier to the 3-star commanded joint task force. Training at JMTC likely means training alongside soldiers of other nations and services, because that is how we now fight; alongside our joint

and coalition partners.

Integrated into mission rehearsals and training at the Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels Training Areas or at forward locations, allied Soldiers are giving our forces real-world practical experience that is not easily replicated or duplicated at other training centers throughout the Army. U.S. and allied noncommissioned officers get the same war fighting skills in the 7th Army Noncommissioned Officer Academy Warrior Leader Course, while senior U.S. joint and allied commanders and staff train and evolve into multinational headquarters at our Joint Multinational Command Training Command. In mission rehearsals at the Joint Multinational

Readiness Center in Hohenfels, Germany, actual allies perform allied missions in the replicated operating environment, bringing vital experience to U.S. forces preparing for real missions downrange. This integration of joint partners and allies ensured success for the Southern European Task Force in Afghanistan and continues to bring success for V Corps in Iraq.

JMTC will continue to bring the highest level of integration between our forces and our allies as we welcome USAREUR's newest

unit, the 2nd Cavalry Regiment, to Vilseck. This Stryker Brigade Combat Team will fight the Global War on Terror in a joint and multinational operating environment, which it will have seen at the JMTC, been tested, and mastered.

Train to Win!!

David G. Perkins
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
Commanding

(Clockwise) Spec. Justin Gehringer, radio communications repair specialist, Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 32nd Signal Battalion, Heidelberg, Germany, discusses plan of attack for an ambush with Sgt. Jenni Perez, linguist, 2nd Military Intelligence, Stuttgart, Germany, Spec. Jason Frisbie, heavy wheel mechanic, Headquarters, Headquarters Company, Baumholder, Germany, and Cpl. Jakec Zbont Arskiaba, infantryman, Slovenia Armed Forces during multinational training at the 7th U.S. Army Joint Multinational Training Command.

7th U.S. Army Joint Multinational Training Command Training Journal

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A squad of 1st Infantry Division soldiers break down the door of a target building at Shwend MOUT site during a live-fire training exercise at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center in Hohenfels, GE, March 13.

Photo by Spec. Michael Joseph Salini



Leaders from the Southeastern Europe Brigade made up of seven European countries (Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, The Former Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia, Romania, Turkey) recently trained together at the 7th U.S. Army Joint Multinational Training Command. This training exercise marked the first exercise that the Joint Force Training Centre has run on its own. JFTC is one of NATO's critical training facilities for NATO Response Force (NRF) as the Alliance transforms to meet the security needs of the 21st century. Under the direction of U.S. Navy Admiral Edmund Giambastiani, NATO's Supreme Allied Commander Transformation, JFTC is the first NATO command to be located in Poland.

Photo by Paula Guzman



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THE GANG'S ALL HERE.

NEW

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NON-LETHAL WEAPONS

A GREGORY LAMP FILM

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RELEASE

Story by Greg Lamp
Photos by Sgt. Melinda Johnson

USAREUR STANDS FIRM

Non-lethal weapons training maximizes commanders' options

Non-lethal weapons are an important tool in volatile situations where casualties, particularly noncombatant casualties, may be avoided. Firing non-lethal crowd dispersal munitions instead of lethal weapons at an angry, violent crowd may be a preferred option. USAREUR clearly understands that Soldiers must be able to execute their missions while operating in the midst of civilian personnel. This requires Soldiers to be properly equipped and trained to conduct any mission, anywhere, anytime!

In July 1996, the Department of Defense published Directive 3000.3, "Policy for Non-lethal Weapons." The policy defines non-lethal weapons as "Weapons systems that are explicitly designed and primarily employed so as to incapacitate personnel or material, while minimizing fatalities, permanent injury to personnel and undesired damage to property and the environment."

Today United States Army, Europe (USAREUR) continues to train with non-lethal weapons as a method to maximize options for commanders in the field. Non-lethal weapons are now developed to a point that they are a viable option for policy/decision makers and tactical commanders to successfully employ in various environments.

Past and present deployments to Bosnia, Kosovo, Iraq, and Afghanistan have confirmed an operational requirement for non-lethal weapons. These deployments prove the original precept of non-lethal employment to be effective and supplement lethal force during combat operations and Military Operations Other Than War.

USAREUR training policy (AE Reg. 350-1) requires organizations with unique training requirements based on mission, type, and deployment area, specifically maneuver battalions and military police units to train on non-lethal tactics, techniques and procedures semi-annually. Current USAREUR policy requires each brigade to have two trained and certified instructors, and battalions with non-lethal equipment to maintain at least one trained and certified instructor. Instructors are certified through the Inter-service Non-Lethal Individual Weapons Instructor Course. Proper training on non-lethal munitions includes explaining and demonstrating Taser use on mannequins and showing films that demonstrate

the effects of these devices. At a minimum, instructors conduct semi-annual training on the use of shields, batons, and an array of non-lethal weapons systems with fully equipped Soldiers in the proper uniform.

Seventh U.S. Army Joint Multinational Training Command is the non-lethal weapons proponent for USAREUR. The Operations and Plans Division's Operations Branch of JMTc's Directorate of Training has access to a comprehensive training support package meeting all training requirements for individual, leader, and collective non-lethal training capabilities. In recent months, JMTc mobilized non-lethal weapons training teams to train USAREUR units at Homestation on the tactical employment of non-lethal weapons. Units included a select number of Soldiers assigned to the 95th Military Police Battalion; Joint Multinational Readiness Center; 1st Brigade, 1st Armored Division; and most recently deployed elements assigned to the 36th Infantry Division (Kosovo Forces 7), during their platoon-level situational training exercises at JMRC, Hohenfels. These mobile training teams are comprised of a select number of trained and certified USAREUR based instructors, which sometimes include instructors from Headquarters, Marine Forces Europe (United States European Command's Non-lethal Executive Agent).

At a minimum, the training instructors cover the following training topics: Force Continuum; Crowd Dynamics/Crowd Control; Communication Skills; Oleoresin Capsicum (Pepper Spray); Pressure Point Control, Open-hand Control and Riot Baton techniques; Rules of Engagement; Military Operations Other Than War; Non-Lethal Capability Sets (NLCS) and application; Non-Lethal Munitions; and Non-Lethal Munitions Live Fire exercises. Training is planned and executed in accordance with a suggested 40-hour training schedule contained in FM 3-22.40.

In addition to training units, USAREUR maintains six NLCS' in Germany and eight in the Balkans region. Each NLCS is specifically tailored to support units selected to participate in ground force operations where non-lethal capability may be required. Component parts of the NLCS are primarily employed to incapacitate personnel and material, while minimizing fatalities or permanent

USAREUR STANDS FIRM

injury to intended targets and collateral damage to property and the environment. The NLCS is not intended to replace, but to augment currently fielded weapon systems and munitions. Non-lethal systems will always be supported by a lethal system.

For decades non-lethal weapons have been under development for military application and continue to be a requirement on the battlefield. USAREUR knows this importance and understands that no Soldier or unit will fight without the proper fielding and training of new equipment. That's why JMTTC trains in a tactical and realistic environment with properly trained instructors.

In the past two years, JMTTC has provided non-lethal weapons training to over 1400 personnel in Germany, Italy, and Kosovo. USAREUR remains committed to providing the best quality training for our Army, joint forces, and multinational partners for any mission, anywhere, anytime!

(Lamp is a non-lethal weapons/urban operations specialist with the 7th U.S. Army JMTTC Directorate of Training, Grafenwoehr, Germany.)

Soldiers fire on command during Non-lethal Weapons Training at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center in Hohenfels, Germany.



Soldiers listen to tactical instructions during Non-lethal Weapons Training at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center in Hohenfels, Germany.

USAREUR clearly understands that Soldiers must be able to execute their missions while operating in the midst of civilian personnel.

What organization provides realistic training support tools for our Soldiers anytime and everywhere?

What organization manages and funds world-class ranges within Europe, and sustains them for the future?

If you said the Training Support Activity-Europe, you would be correct.

Story and photos provided by Tim Heefner

TS&A

ANYTIME - ANYWHERE

"TSAE and all its members are important because of the mission we are entrusted with, such as identify, acquire, manage, and sustain training resources required to support all echelons of training and provide state-of-the-art training support throughout USAREUR's Area of Responsibility," said R.C. Claflin, chief, Training Support Activity, Europe.

"We are geographically dispersed, the headquarters and branches are located in Grafenwoehr. Our production facility is in Rodelheim. Seven Regional Training Support Centers and 21 Training Support Centers are dispersed throughout Germany, Italy, Belgium, Holland, Kosovo, and Bosnia. Support is also provided to Soldiers in Spain and England," Claflin said.

TSAE products and services impact readiness. "We provide training enablers that include ranges, local

training areas, training aids, devices, and simulators. We also provide visual information products to include DA photos, official passport photos, and training documentation," Claflin said.

TSAE plays a critical role in transformation.

"By 2010, the Training Activity Support Europe will be transformed into our Training Support Group capable of providing full spectrum live and virtual training enablers and capabilities worldwide. Additionally, we will reduce the number of Training Support Centers from 21 to 10 within Germany, Italy and Kosovo. To support the Eastern European Task Force during its rotational period, we will reallocate existing resources to establish expeditionary TSCs in Romania and Bulgaria," Claflin reported. The Sustainable Range Program and Training Aids, Devices, and Simulators are two critical areas TSAE manages to

provide world class training support to our Warfighters.

Sustainable Range Program

The Sustainable Range Program and its two main components, RTLP and ITAM, are key to transformation.

"The RTLP program is the DA G3 proponent for all range operations and range modernization in USAREUR. The program funds range operations at both the local training areas and the major training areas. RTLP conducts small range upgrades and modernization using Department of Army funding, and are USAREUR's representative for all major range construction projects. Several major projects that RTLP has executed over the past year include range tower upgrades at Grafenwoehr Training Area, the

range renovations at Brietenwald Range Complex in Kaiserslautern, and the renovation of Military Operations Urban Terrain sites at Wiesbaden and Baumholder," said Steve Kennedy, program manager, RTLP, TSAE.

"RTLP has worked on several projects that have direct impact on readiness. When 1st Artillery Division returned from Iraq, they were extremely concerned that our existing MOUT facilities were inadequate due to their combat experience. 1st AD representatives informed me that Soldiers were proficient when it came to clearing buildings and rooms during urban operations; however, units suffered combat casualties when moving between buildings during urban combat. To address this training shortfall RTLP designed and constructed new squad urban assault facilities at Grafenwoehr Training Area and Baumholder Training Area.



Soldiers train on the Engagement Skills Trainer at the Training Support Center in Hohenfels, Germany. The EST is one of the latest state-of-the-art training products to support training throughout the Regional Training Support Centers and Training Support Centers in Europe.

On the road with JMTC's

Expeditionary Training

Story by Mindy Anderson
Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Clint Battaglia

Small Arms Master Marksman Course

INSTRUCTORS

In the pursuit of Army Chief of Staff General Peter Schoomaker's vision "Every Soldier is a Rifleman," instructors from the 7th U.S. Army Joint Multinational Training Command Small Arms Master Marksman Course recently completed its first expeditionary training exercise with the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas.

"Lessons learned from the Global War on Terrorism show small arms weapons proficiency is the key to our survival on the modern day battlefield," said Sgt. 1st Class Clint Battaglia. "For a Soldier to be able to employ the small arms weapons proficiently on the battlefield they must go through rigorous marksmanship training. What SAMMC provides to units is a subject matter expert who is capable of establishing and helping unit leadership execute comprehensive unit marksmanship training programs," Battaglia said.

The idea of sending a Mobile Training Team to Fort Hood, Texas originated when Lt. Gen. Peter W. Chiarelli, former Commander of 1st Cavalry Division, attended a SAMMC briefing in August 2005 that I conducted to inform leaders of the purpose of the course," Battaglia said.

A few weeks after the briefing, SGM Tony Bowen, 1st Cavalry Plans and Operations, contacted the JMTC Directorate of Training to inquire about the possibility of sending a MTT to Ft. Hood, Texas.

"I looked into a number of MTTs and courses that (1st Cavalry Division) needed to prepare us for our upcoming Operation Iraqi Freedom mission in FY '07," Bowen said. "Considering the fact that Combat Units have Master Gunners to plan, coordinate and conduct training for their units, I took into account the shortage of qualified personnel in our Combat Support and Combat Service Support units to

accomplish these tasks," he said.

Although CS/CSS units conducted the basic zero and qualification requirements, and went from qualification to convoy live fires, we were not able to set-up and conduct scenarios by their Mission Essential Task List or their commander's intent.

"I chose the SAMMC as my number one priority due to the lack of trained personnel in our CS/CSS units to better prepare the Soldiers for upcoming missions," Bowen said.

After completion of SAMMC, the majority of graduating students have gone back to their units and planned, resourced and conducted advanced marksmanship training to include creating their own convoy live fire scenarios that meet their commander's intent, Bowen reported.

Soldiers who attended the SAMMC training have performed short range marksmanship training within their units to prepare them for urban training and live fire events, which has boosted the confidence in many Soldiers within the CS/CSS units and they feel better prepared to conduct cordon and searches in an urban environment.

"In my company it has started to have a great impact on mission readiness," said Sgt. Joshua Beatty, Company D, 215th Forward Support Battalion. "Due to the class, I am able to hold classes that were never taught in this company before. The instructors were total professionals and had a great deal of knowledge that they were willing to share," he said.

Sgt. 1st Class Julio A. Rivera, 15th Support Brigade, echoed Beatty's sentiments.

"This was one of the most challenging training courses I have ever had during my 18-year military career," Rivera said. "Every student took it very seriously due to the real world mission that we face in today's Army. I'm very confident that this training will save Soldiers lives in

combat, especially the non-combat arms units."

Bowen said JMTC instructors were the most professional group of subject matter expert's he has experienced in his 22 years of service.

"Their technical and tactical proficiency went far beyond expectation," Bowen said. They held all students to the same standards and were available 24-hours a day to assist student's who needed extra training to be able to complete the course. They received 33 students who knew nothing about weapon's systems, short-range marksmanship, range operations or convoy live fires and gave 1st Cavalry Division 24 highly trained, confident professionals who can now better prepare their units for combat operations with little to no assistance from our Division's trained Master Gunners, the sergeant major said.

In addition to the obvious training advantages, the planning and conducting range operations portion of the class has enabled the units to conduct more training.

"In the past they were unable to conduct the training due to the lack of knowledge on how to perform these missions," Bowen said. "Our Division has seen a significant increase in the scheduling of ranges from our CS/CSS units now that they have the confidence and experience to conduct more advanced live fire exercises."

During 1st Cavalry's first deployment to OIF, everybody had to come to ranges that were set up by division or the combat brigades to familiarize with their weapons to stay proficient. Now they have trained NCO's in their CS/CSS units who can confidently build and save their own small arms ranges. Plus, they can conduct familiarization training within their own areas of operation without traveling hundreds of kilometers to train, according to Bowen.

Bowen stressed the position of Small Arms Master Marksman should be a Modified Table of Organizations & Equipment requirement for CS/CSS units as Master Gunners are to Combat Arms Units.

"I would highly recommend that all Divisions in the Regular Army, National Guard and Reserves request and receive this training to ensure that their CS/CSS units are better prepared and ready for combat in today's Army at war."

SAMM-C graduates Beatty and Rivera concur.

"This class should be considered a prerequisite for some battalion positions, not just company level, even though there are obvious benefits to having a SAMM-C qualified noncommissioned officer in a company," Beatty said. "I learned enormous amounts of material, and was able to shoot different weapons in different positions. This class, albeit with instructors as competent as the JMTC instructors, will benefit all levels of Soldiers," he said.

Rivera said SAMM-C instructors were very professional and their knowledge exceeded the standards.

"They maintained the set training agenda while cutting no slack during testing to ensure that every student was 100 percent proficient in every weapon system trained," Rivera said. "I think every NCO should receive this training either locally, TDY or incorporate it into the NCO Education System."

Overall the course was a definite success.

"The support received from the host unit was outstanding," Battaglia said. "This brought us to the realization that a mobile training team is the way to go for future classes. The advantage being that units can train in their own surroundings with their own equipment," he said.

"We just feel this is the best training that a lot of these support units will ever receive and everybody is jumping on it," Bowen said.



Above: Staff Sgt. James Raymond, 15th Support Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, drafts Surface Danger Zones during the second week of the Small Arms Master Marksman Course at Fort Hood, Texas. Top right: Sgt. Luis A. Lopez, 227th Aviation Brigade, demonstrates the kneeling position with the M4 during the second week of the Small Arms Master Marksman Course at Fort Hood, Texas. Soldiers trained on nine different weapons during the two-week training course.



"I'm very confident that this **training will save Soldiers lives** in combat, especially the non-combat arms units."

Sgt. 1st Class Julio A. Rivera, 1st Cavalry Division

Story by Mindy Anderson
Photos by Spec. Jennifer Marquis
Photo Illustration by Mindy Anderson

Czech Mate



Czech Republic Soldiers train alongside Texas Army National Guard

With the battlefield ever changing to a more non-linear conflict, the concept of American Soldiers always taking the lead in military actions too is changing. In the complex battlefields that are present today, it is becoming more crucial for Soldiers to gain an understanding of how to work with multinational forces as Americans take the role of the main effort, as well as supporting efforts to other nations.

With the Czech Soldiers' presence on the recent KFOR rotation at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center, U.S. forces commanders were exposed to issues that are commonly overlooked.

"Our Army has many acronyms that are not widely used in NATO," said 1st Lt. Steven Dukes, Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment. This situation was brought to light in many of our tactical operations orders when I had to explain several misunderstandings due to our use of acronyms.

Soldiers from the Czech Republic are indeed tactically

proficient in many of their tasks such as cordon and search, as well as riot control. Their presence in the KFOR rotation had many benefits beyond the traditional multinational training provides.

"As an Opposing Forces Soldier we have a distinct advantage over the Blue Forces units that come to train here as we too are American Soldiers just as they are," Dukes said. "We are familiar with their tactics and techniques when not playing the role of insurgents or civilians, because we are training in the same method on the same tasks — this gives us insight into what actions and decisions the training unit will make."

With a multinational force as tactically proficient as the Czech Army, it offers a very unique training environment not only with the BLUEFOR unit training, but the OPFOR as well.

"We get a chance to see another alternative technique executed brilliantly and it allows the commanders the opportunity to not only witness the actions of foreign

"Having worked alongside the same forces that will form joint task force missions in theatre establishes the initial level of trust that is crucial for mission accomplishment."

—Sgt. Maj. Ludek Kolesa, Sergeant Major of the Czech Armed Forces

Soldiers but the ability to have tactical discussions with them and gain a better understanding of why they use their particular method," Dukes said.

In addition, the same lessons learned and knowledge gained by U.S. Soldiers can be applied to Czech Soldiers as well. Throughout their stay at Hohenfels Czech Soldiers had multiple opportunities to see U.S. tactics as well. "We coordinated for them to fire our simulated weapons systems such as the EST 2000 and our small arms live fire ranges to give them a familiarization with our force and weapons capabilities," Dukes said.

This not only fosters the concept of bilateral cooperation among the two countries, it also allows commanders to plan more effectively for when they have U.S. forces under their command in multinational operations. "They now have the experience and understanding of what the U.S. Army is capable of providing them in mission support," Dukes said.

Sgt. Maj. Ludek Kolesa, Sergeant Major of the Czech Armed Forces, said Soldiers benefit most by learning from each other and *about* each other.

"By learning that there can be somebody you can rely

on in the fight, regardless of nationality. By learning the meaning of the words 'allied Soldiers,' he said.

Maj. Craig T. Normand, bilateral affairs officer, American Embassy, Czech Republic, thinks bilateral training gives Soldiers of both armies a chance to learn from each other's shared experience in other deployments and exercises.

"Many of the Czech Soldiers had already deployed to Kosovo, some several times," Normand said. "By the same token, many of the Texas troops had deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan. By drawing on these experiences and applying them to the problem at hand, innovative solutions can often be found."

In addition to the overall benefits of training bilaterally, there are short term and long term benefits to consider.

Kolesa sees short-term benefits as healthy competition, comparison of individual and unit skills, capabilities and effectiveness in training. He said among long term benefits the contribution to cultural awareness, new motivation of Soldiers and units, harmonization of training between allied forces, and building confidence among Soldiers, units, and nations stand-out as being of key importance.

The long term benefits are seen through continued and enhanced cooperation between NATO partners that develop through successful execution of exercises such as this training at JMRC.

"Training in JMRC Hohenfels with its great Star Wars Center helped in correcting and adjusting training routines as well as in improving warfighting skills," Kolesa said. "Good results in training helped in building unit cohesiveness and individual and collective self-confidence."

Normand believes training alongside the Texas National Guard contingent which will adjoin the Czech sector in Kosovo was a great benefit for the Soldiers of the 71st Mechanized Battalion, many of whose Soldiers will deploy to Kosovo in mid-2006.

"Having worked alongside the same forces that will form joint task force missions in theatre establishes the initial level of trust that is crucial for mission accomplishment," Normand said.

Continued bilateral training is key to the Czech Armed Forces' success since they only became a fully voluntary force January 1, 2005.

"We are going through reform and transformation, and our goal is to have a small, flexible, highly trained, well-equipped, and mobile force which must be deployable and able to cooperate alongside other allied or coalition forces, Kolesa said. "Bilateral or multilateral training are the key vehicles for meeting our goal."



Soldiers from the Czech Republic Armed Forces prepare to enter a building to conduct a systematic room-clearing during a MOUT training exercise at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center in Hohenfels, Germany.



A Soldier from the Czech Republic Armed Forces stands guard over a civilian on the battlefield role-playing as the enemy during MOUT training at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center in Hohenfels, Germany.

DARWARS

May the Force be With You

Q&A Compiled by Mindy Anderson
Photos by Paula Guzman

CSM James F. Campbell, former commandant 7th Army NCOA, provides an inside look into the Warrior Leadership Course's latest approach to training junior leaders.

Q In what ways do you see DARWARS revolutionizing training as we know it-- how do you see it enhancing overall mission readiness?

A It provides the Soldier training at a lower cost than going to an actual range to train; although the term "Boots on the Ground" training can never be substituted this allows Soldiers to plan and prepare for a mission and then see it unfold in front of them and through a virtual AAR. It also allows the Soldier to do training in a structured environment prior to doing the boots on the ground training; so the leadership can refine small details in their plan or SOP to ensure that training is not wasted.

Q Is this the first class the Joint Multinational Training Center has lead, or is this the first DARWARS class, period?

A This is the first class at the 7th Army NCO Academy to go through the training. The Warrior Leader Course at Fort Lewis is also doing the same type of training but not think at the same volume we are. I saw a briefing in October about DARWARS and we ran 12 students and 2 cadre through the training as a litmus test, per say, to see the practical applications for the WLC.

Q Why is it important to have DARWARS a part of the WLC?

A The training is important because it uses the three phases of training perfectly. Crawl -- students receive tactical training in a classroom environment with a cadre member teaching them. Walk -- this is

where DARWARS comes in; they take a mission briefing from DARWARS; create an operations order from it, brief it to their individual squads and conduct the mission virtually and then finally run it. The students take what they have learned in the previous week and apply it to a 96-hour situational field training exercise. DARWARS also allows us to virtually use vehicles and weapons systems that we as an NCO academy sometimes do not have access to.

Q This is in a classroom setting, so how realistic is it?

A Our greatest challenge is some students see it as a video game. Although it is, the planning and conceptual training properties of the program are what we truly use it for. It also allows the Students to actually see how the mission they have planned unfolds prior to moving to the Situational Training Exercise.

Q Anything else you'd like to add?

A If the Soldiers can get past seeing it as a video game the leadership can really use it as a mission planning guide to use to create operational orders and refine SOP's prior to going to a live fire range or training in general.



Above: As pictured on the computer screens, DARWARS is a computerized video game designed to give Soldiers a realistic, yet virtual view of what they will experience downrange, such as avoiding an ambush, handling a hostile crowd or navigating an urban environment.

Left: CSM James Campbell, former commandant, 7th Army NCO Academy, explains the many benefits of DARWARS training to Romanian Armed Forces leaders.



A Soldier aims and fires his weapon during DARWARS training. DARWARS provides Soldiers with a virtual, yet realistic view of real world scenarios.

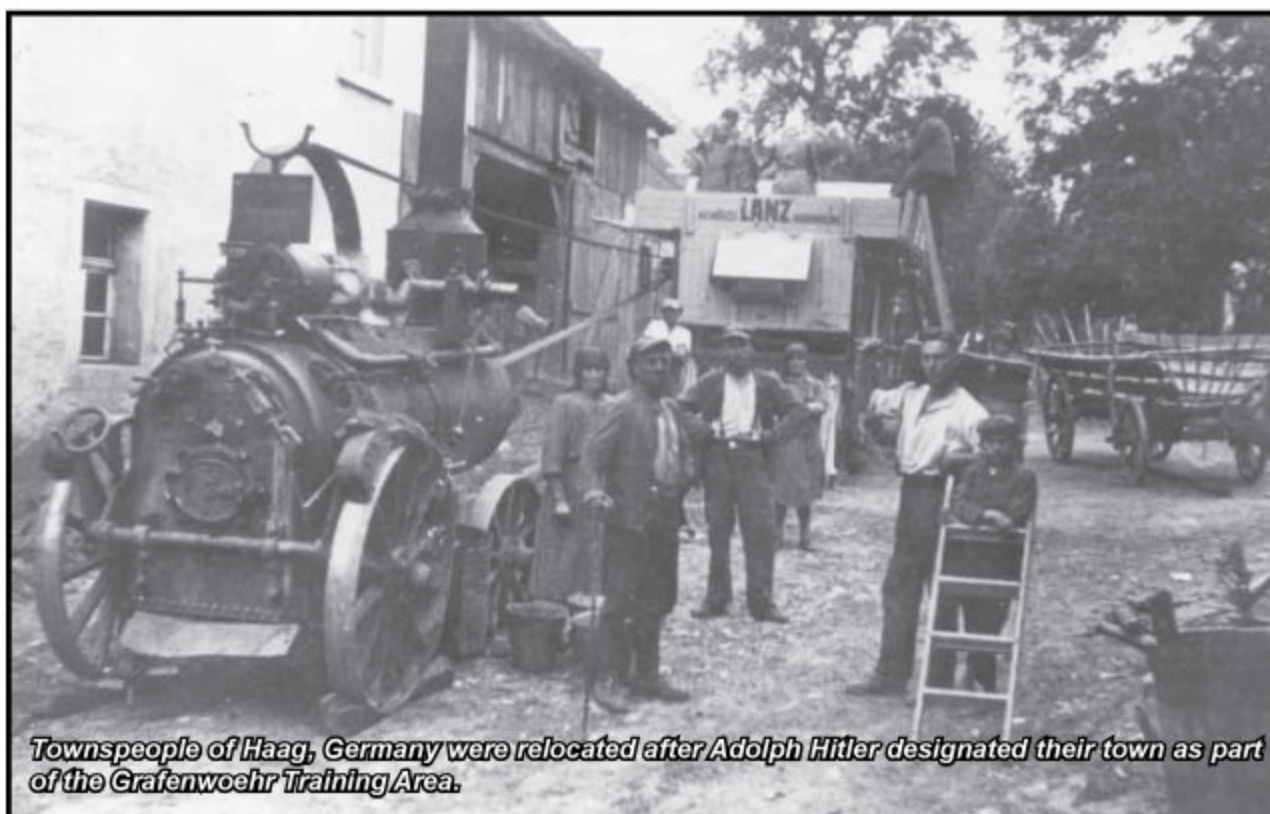
HOT SHOTS *Historical*



A band of 3rd Field Artillery Regiment marches through Grafenwoehr, Germany.



The 3rd Armored Division conducts a "Mounted Review" at the training area on June 3, 1967. This parade was the first roll-by of a major armed force since the 1949 reviews for General Clay.



Townpeople of Haag, Germany were relocated after Adolph Hitler designated their town as part of the Grafenwoehr Training Area.



A Bavarian soldier leads French prisoners of war to the Grafenwoehr POW Camp in 1914. Prisoners were put to work on the further upgrading of the training area.

Photos provided by Gerald Morgenstern

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